



LINCOLN CHAFEE

U.S. SENATOR

RHODE ISLAND

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SENATOR CHAFEE SECURES \$250,000 FOR RHODE ISLAND COLLEGE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Funding requested by U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee for Rhode Island College (RIC) has been approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), he announced today. The \$248,000 was included in the 2005 HUD appropriations bill at the request of Senator Chafee. The grant will be used for the renovation of the former State Home and School, located on RIC's East Campus.

One of the first post-Civil War orphanages in America, Rhode Island College plans to preserve the State Home, and use it to house a new research and education center for social workers, faculty, students, teachers, school children, and the public focusing on the issues of child welfare.

"Education on the issues affecting America's most vulnerable children is the only effective way to overcome these problems, and I am pleased funds have been provided to help finance the preservation and renovation of the State Home, an institution which has always been devoted to helping children in need," Senator Chafee said. "Soon the Child Welfare Research and Education Center will be making great strides in determining how to better care for our state's afflicted children, and educating citizens on the important problems we need to address and be aware."

Rhode Island College has collaborated with the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children, Rhode Island Foster Parents Association, Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth & Families, the Providence Preservation Society and the Rhode Island Historical Society to preserve records from the State Home and produce an oral history as well as to develop plans for the restoration of the structure and creation of the Child Welfare Research and Education Center.

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